

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Annual Filing)
Requirements for 2012 Pertaining to the) Case No. 12-1115-TP-COI
Provisioning of High-Cost Universal)
Service.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) On November 18, 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Report and Order in WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.*, which, among other things, comprehensively reformed the federal universal service support program. In its Report and Order, the FCC required states to certify that all federal high-cost and Connect America Fund support was used in the preceding year and will be used in the coming calendar year for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and service for which the support is intended, regardless of the rule under which that support is provided. The certification required by new section 54.314 of the FCC's rules (47 C.F.R. §54.314) is due by October 1 of each year, commencing on October 1, 2012, for carriers to be eligible to receive support in each quarter of the succeeding year.
- (2) In order to comply with the FCC's certification requirements and consistent with Rule 4901:1-6-09(C), Ohio Administrative Code, an entry was issued on August 15, 2012, directing those carriers presently receiving federal universal service high-cost funding in Ohio to attest that such high-cost funding is being utilized consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).
- (3) It has come to the Commission's attention that the affidavit attached to the August 15, 2012, entry did not require carriers to certify that federal high cost funding had been utilized in the proceeding year in accordance with newly revised FCC rule 47 C.F.R. 54.314. Thus, all eligible carriers seeking federal universal service high cost and Connect America Fund support for 2013 should immediately execute and submit the revised affidavit attached to this entry to the Commission. Such affidavits are due at the Commission no later than September 28, 2012.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That, consistent with Finding (3), each Ohio high-cost ETC that wishes to be eligible for support from any of the high-cost and/or Connect America Fund support mechanisms shall file with the Commission a completed and notarized copy of the attached affidavit form, certifying that federal high-cost support has been and is being used consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e), no later than September 28, 2012. It is, further,

ORDERED, That nothing contained in this entry shall be deemed binding upon this Commission in any subsequent investigation or proceeding involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon the Ohio Telecom Association, Frontier North Inc. and The Chillicothe Telephone Company.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman



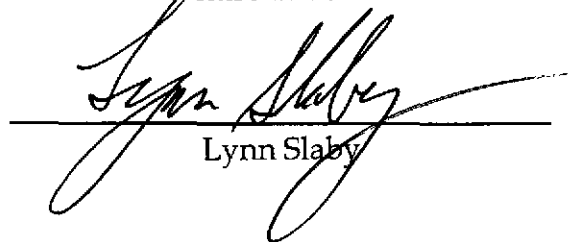
Steven D. Lesser



Andre T. Porter



Cheryl L. Roberto

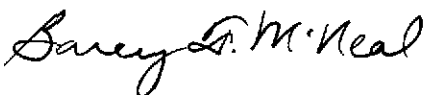


Lynn Slaby

JRJ/vrm

Entered in the Journal

SEP 19 2012



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary

Attachment A
254(e) Affidavit for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

Affidavit:

As an authorized corporate officer of _____ (Company Name), I, under penalty of perjury, hereby affirm familiarity with and understanding of the requirements of the Communications Act of 1934 as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with respect to the receipt of Universal Service funds and affirm that any such funds that were received during the preceding calendar year and/or any such funds that may be received will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §254(e) and 47 C.F.R. §54.314.

Signature	Type or Print Name	Date

Subscriber and Sworn to before me this _____ day of September, A.D. 2012.

NOTARY Public

Commission Expires _____